

Amendments to the Drawings

Please amend Figures 1-6 according to the replacement sheets submitted herewith.

Please add the Figure 7 attached hereto.

Remarks

By the foregoing Amendment, claims 1, 5, 8-9, 13 and 17 are amended, and claim 10 is cancelled. No new matter is added by this Amendment. Entry of the Amendment, and favorable consideration thereof, is earnestly requested.

The Examiner has noted extraneous numerals 21 and 31 in Figure 1. Accordingly, these numerals have been removed.

The Examiner has indicated that a feature of claim 5 has not been adequately shown in the drawings. Accordingly, Figure 7 has been presented. No new matter is added thereby. Support for this amendment is found at 00025 and 00031. Figures 1-6 have been amended to reflect the new total of 7 pages (e.g., "1/7").

The Examiner has indicated that a feature of claim 10 has not been adequately shown in the drawings. As indicated below, claim 10 has been cancelled.

The Examiner has objected to several paragraphs of the specification. Accordingly, these paragraphs have been amended.

The Examiner has rejected claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. §112, 1st paragraph for lack of enablement. Accordingly, claim 10 has been cancelled.

The Examiner has noted various informalities in claims , 5, 8-9, 13 and 17. Accordingly, these claims have been amended.

The Examiner has rejected independent claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Takahashi, U.S. Patent No. 5,743,846. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Takahashi '846 reference does not anticipate independent claim 1 because all of the elements in claim 1 are not shown in this reference. Specifically, Takahashi

does not teach an image transmission system in which all the optically active surfaces of the lenses are spherical.

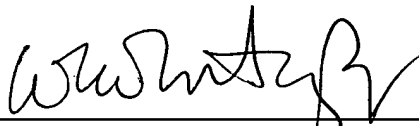
Independent Claim 1 of the present application recites that “all optically active surfaces are spherical.” This feature is illustrated in Figures 1-6 of the present application, and is explained, in particular, at paragraph 00023 of the specification, which states: “all lens elements are of an optically homogeneous material and all optically active surfaces (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8) of all indicated rod lenses are spherical.” As illustrated and explained, the present invention comprises a system where all lens surfaces are spherical, and these curved surfaces are all position adjacent each other vertex-to-vertex. This is further shown in the Table of Paragraph 00024. This is a central aspect of the invention, which operates to produce the brightest possible image with a relatively simple arrangement of lenses, as is explained in paragraphs 00012-14. Takahashi '846 does not disclose this type of arrangement. Instead, the cited system of Takahashi employs plano-concave lens elements.

Moreover, the Takahashi reference would not render the invention of claim 1 obvious because, in order for the claimed invention to be obvious over the prior art, there must be some suggestion or motivation in the reference to make the relevant modification. See, e.g., MPEP 2143.01; *In re Mills*, 916 F.2d 680, 682, 16 USPQ2d 1430, 1432 (Fed. Cir. 1990). There is no such suggestion in the Takahashi reference to modify the relay lens system identified in Figure 21 of the reference. Takahashi is directed to a system using two “front” negative lens units arranged in parallel with each other and arranged to be substantially symmetrically concentric about an optical axis of a single “rear” positive lens group and spaced to be afocal in order to allow a plurality of images having parallax between them to be substantially superimposed on one another. Indeed, Takahashi even notes that this is for “transmission by a *common* relay lens system or for reception by electronic image pickup devices.” See, e.g., Abstract; Col. 1, In 7-11. There is no suggestion to alter the cited relay lenses or that it would be

desirable to make modifications thereto in order to maximize the brightness of the image. Neither the Takahashi '846, nor the Japanese Takahashi reference (61-20015), teach or suggest the use of a series of lenses as recited in claim 1 where "all optically active surfaces" in that series are spherical.

Applicant submits that generic claim 1 is allowable, and thus, withdrawn claims 2, 4, 15 and 18-22 are also allowable. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-9 and 11-22, all of the claims remaining in the application, are in order for allowance, and early notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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